

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 27, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. POWELL submitted the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the papers of Jane Perry, widow of the late Commodore M. C. Perry, United States navy, report:*

That no petition of Mrs. Perry accompanies the papers, and it appears that she has made no application to the Pension Bureau for a pension. The proof establishes the fact that Commodore Perry died of gout, or rheumatism, in the heart. There is no evidence before the committee that the disease of which he died was contracted while in the line of his duty. If Commodore Perry died in consequence of disease contracted, or of injuries or casualties received while in the line of his duty, his widow, under the general law, (see act 3d of March, 1817,) by application to the Pension Bureau, and making satisfactory proof that her late husband died in consequence of disease contracted, or of casualties or injuries received while in the line of his duty, would be entitled to receive a pension. If proof were now made, or should be hereafter made, that Commodore Perry died of disease contracted, or casualties or injuries received while in the line of his duty, the general law, as it now is, affords his widow the relief now asked. We do not think Mrs. Perry entitled to a pension, unless her case is brought within the provisions of the act above referred to; in that event, no special legislation is required, the general laws affording abundant relief.

Your committee, therefore, beg leave to offer an adverse report.

